



MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

March 2021 Program

Ironclads Strike: CSS Palmetto State and CSS Chicora

The ironclads *CSS Palmetto State* and *CSS Chicora* were built in Charleston in 1862 to help defend the harbor from Union assault. The army commander of the defenses of South Carolina, P. G. T. Beauregard, pushed the Confederate navy to attempt to break the Federal blockade. On the early morning of January 31, 1863, the two ironclads attacked the Union fleet. The *Palmetto State* was able to damage two blockaders, the *USS Mercedita* and the *Keystone State*. The ironclads returned to Charleston on the next tide. Beauregard proclaimed the blockade had been broken; however, the Union ships came back on station and Charleston's value as a blockade runner's haven continued to diminish.

This meeting will be held on Zoom. It will be followed by a brief executive meeting.

John V. Quarstein

John V. Quarstein is an award-winning historian, preservationist, and author. He is the director emeritus of the *U.S. Monitor Center* at the Mariners' Museum and Park in Newport News, Virginia. He is the author of 17 books; some of the titles are *Hilton Village: America's First Public Planned Community*; *A History of Ironclads: The Power of Iron over Wood*; *CSS Virginia: Sink Before Surrender*; and *The Monitor Boys: The Crew of the Union's First Ironclad*, the winner of the 2012 Henry Adams Prize for excellence in historical literature. Quarstein has also produced, narrated and written several PBS documentaries including the film series, *Civil War in Hampton Roads*, a Silver Telly Award winner.

Quarstein is the recipient of the National Trust for Historical Preservation's President's Award for Historic Preservation, the Civil War Society's Preservation award and the Daughters of American Revolution Gold Historians Medal.

He lives in the National Register of Historic Places property known as the 1757 Herber House. This outstanding example of brick Georgian architecture is located near Blackbeard's Point on the Hampton River in Hampton, Virginia.

Remaining lectures, locations and dates of the upcoming 2020-21 lectures. Please note that the March and April programs are new.

May 26 Paul Quigley Arlington National Cemetery: Where America reunited and Redivided

Plans for 2021-22

The group is planning on starting the 2021-22 meetings using Zoom, but hopes to be able to switch by January 2022 to regular meetings inside Sun City

Some of the possible speakers for next year include the following:

Carolyn Coppola: Reconstruction, Bluffton, & Campbell AME Church

C. Russell Horres: Morris Island and the Civil War

Jack Rabbit: The Civil War: Why Did So Many Die?

John Warley: 11th Hour Effort to Avoid the Civil War

Proofreader and Article Writers Wanted

I have a need for someone who would like to research items and write articles on the Civil War. A proofreader to read the Miniball before it is sent out would also be useful. Book reviews on the Civil War could also be submitted. Contact sanindex@schroederindexing.com

Heritage Library Spring Programs

The Heritage Library is located in the Professional Building, Suite 100, 2 Corpus Christi, Hilton Head.

843-686-6560 HeritageLib.org

Thursday April 15th 2:00 P M.—Author Chat on the Civil War in the South Carolina Lowcountry—How a Confederate Artillery and a Black Union Regiment Defined the Meaning of War

American Cruise Lines

When we can start living again, American Cruise Lines has several cruises you might be interested in.

They are:

New Orleans Round Trip

Lower Mississippi

American Heroes

Harriet Tubman & Frederick Douglass

Arts Center Virtual Field Trip

February 17 to June 17, 2021

The Arts Center of Coastal Carolina recently filmed a two-part series on Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass. These American Heroes shaped our nation's history by playing key roles in the abolitionist movement, each in their own way. Cora Miller embodies Tubman and Hank Herring portrays Douglass. Both performances were shot on the Arts Center stage.

This digital field trip is currently being streamed for participating schools in our area.

Sponsored by the Winthrop Family Fund



Fort Pulaski Offers Ideal Educational and Outdoor Experiences

Savannah is known for its charming downtown, picturesque scenery and its penchant for having a good time.

But it's also admired for its history. If you want to enjoy a ride over the Talmadge Bridge and get a worthwhile education and explore historic grounds, Fort Pulaski National Monument makes for a quintessential day trip.

Located on Cockspur Island, just 20 minutes from downtown Savannah, Fort Pulaski has stood over the Savannah River for more than 170 years. It was built to protect the city of Savannah. Construction began in 1829 and was completed in 1847.

During the Civil War, according to the National Park Service website, the fort housed soldiers, was used as a prisoner-of-war camp — and served as a “safe haven” for former slaves.

Declared a National Monument in 1924, Fort Pulaski has been preserved and offers plenty to see and do. It has become a prime attraction, with more than 374,000 visitors in 2019, according to the National Parks Service website.

Guests are invited to explore exhibits and hike or bird watch. Visitors are encouraged to enjoy a picnic on the area's benches.

The fort is the main attraction. Visitors can walk the rooms inside, view exhibits and read panels that tell stories about the fort's history.

If you want to enjoy the outdoors, the fort has plenty to offer, including numerous trails worth exploring. Featured trails include the North Pier, Historic Dike System, the nature loop and picnic area.



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According to the National Parks Service website, the North Pier Trail runs through scenic woods and passes through remnants of Fort

Pulaski’s original construction village. The trail is less than a mile.

The Historic Dike System is a two-mile trail that circles the fort, which gives visitors “unparalleled views” of Cockspar Island and the Savannah River.

A tip for visitors: If you walk around the fort and follow the moat, you’ll see battle scars that mark the fort. There are still shells embedded in the walls from a battle in 1862.

There are a few limitations for visitors. The visitor center and Lighthouse Overlook Trail are closed. Joel Cadoff, the park’s public information officer, expects the lighthouse trail to reopen this spring.



Restrooms are available. Because of the coronavirus, masks are required.

“There are some limitations, but folks will be able to have a fantastic visit,” Cadoff said.

If you can’t make the trip, you can still enjoy the experience.

A 20-minute film on the Fort Pulaski website explores its history and construction.

You can also take a virtual tour of the fort’s trails. Follow the link on the website for one of 11 trails and listen to a park ranger guide you as you view a video of the grounds.

Courtesy of Hilton Head Monthly March 2021 issue

LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, INC.

Annual Membership for all household members (to Aug 31, 2021): **\$20.00**

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

CURRENT MEMBER _____

NEW MEMBER _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 to AUGUST 31, 2021

Please **Print** All Information Below

Last Name First Name Badge Nickname

Last Name (Additional Household Member) First Name Badge Nickname

Address

City State Zip Code

Phone () Additional Phone ()

Sun City Residents Only

New CAM number _____

Additional Household member **New** CAM number _____

E-Mail

Additional Household member E-mail

(We will keep this confidential!)

We always need volunteers to continue making the LCWRT successful.

Please check the area(s) for which you are willing to volunteer:

- ____ Program Committee: help select topics & speakers ____ Assist in Production/Distribution of the *Minie Ball Gazette*
____ Assist on Program Night (Greeter, Collect Tickets or Guest Fees, Tally Program Attendance)
____ Historian ____ Maintain Membership Roster ____ Work at Sun City Club Fair ____ Web Site Maintenance

Mail to or leave in "lower" box: **Joseph Passiment, 26 Schooner Lane, Bluffton, SC 29909-4305**

Make Check Payable to: **LCWRT Inc.**

Any questions: please call **Joseph Passiment** at **732-995-2102** or contact at the email address **joseph.passiment900@gmail.com**

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The Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

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education and battlefield preservation.

**A Not-for-Profit, Charitable Organization as qualified under section
501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.**

Note: The website address is

www.lcwrt.squarespace.com and it can

be used to get current and historical LCWRT information.